## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 00275 111906Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PER-01 /043 W

-----112026Z 008409 /53

R 111839Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2949

AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL SANTIAGO 275

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MPOL, OCON, CI

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF POLOFFS AND DATTS TO DISCUSS

POLMIL SITUATION IN SUBREGION

REF: QUITO 0174 (DTG 081258Z JAN 77)

- 1. AMBASSADOR BLOOMFIELD'S SUGGESTION FOR A MEETING OF WORKING LEVEL POLITICAL AND MILITARY OFFICERS AT OUR EMBASSIES IN THE SUBREGION IS AN ATTRACTIVE ONE. UNDOUBTEDLY SUCH A MEETING WOUD ACCOMPLISH A GREAT DEAL IN IMPOROVING COORDINATION AND INCREASING UNDERSTANDING OF EVENTS AND SENTIMENTS IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.
- 2. THE PROBLEM I HAVE WITH THE PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, IS THAT IT WOULD ROIL THE "WAR THREAT" WATERS WHICH ARE ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO CALM DOWN. BECAUSE OF VISAS, TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, CONFIDENTIAL

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ETC., IT WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP SO LARGE A MEETING SECRET. THE VERY FACT THAT THE USG FELT COMPELLED TO HOLD SUCH A CONCLAVE WOULD REVIVE PRESS AND OFFICIAL SPECULATION AND GIVE RENEWED WEIGHT TO RECENT SENSATIONAL REPORTS.

3. PERHPAS THE BEST COURSE WOULD BE TO PREPARE AN UPDATED WASHINGTON ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND TO CIRCULATE IT FOR COMMENT.

IF IT IS THEN FELT THAT A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BY FIELD PERSONNEL WILL BE NEEDED, THE PROPOSED MEETING COULD BE HELD -- AFTER THE CURRENT FLURRY HAS DIED DOWN. POPPER

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Subject: PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF POLOFFS AND DATTS TO DISCUSS POLMIL SITUATION IN SUBREGION TAGS: PINT, MPOL, OCON, CI
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